

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is a response to the remarks filed on June 11, 2010. Claims 1 and 5 have been amended; claims 3, 8, 11 and 14 have been cancelled; no claims have been added.
2. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on July 12, 2010 has been entered.
3. In view of amendment(s) and remarks, the rejection of claims 3-5, 7-9, 11, 13, and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takagi (JP 2003-128900) in view of Nakazawa et al. (JP 2003- 192884) and Omura et al. (JP 55-131047) has been withdrawn.
4. Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 9 and 13 are pending.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

5. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ms. Aya Suzuki (Reg. No. 64,621) on July 28, 2010.

6. Claims 4 and 9 have been cancelled.
7. Claim 1, line 10: after the words "a polyactic acid stereoblock copolymer" delete period and insert ---, wherein the aromatic urea compound is xylylene bisstearyl urea.---

Claim 5, the last line: after the words "a polyactic acid stereoblock copolymer" delete period and insert ---, wherein the aromatic urea compound is xylylene bisstearyl urea.---

Allowable Subject Matter

8. Claims 1, 5, 7, and 13 are allowed.
9. The following is examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The present claims are allowable over the closest references: Takagi (JP 2003-128900 A) and Nakazawa et al. (JP 2003-192884 A).

Takagi discloses that automobile parts and electric appliance parts contain a lactic acid resin composition as a major component and shredder dust comes from automobile parts and electric appliance parts containing a lactic acid resin composition. The lactic acid resin composition comprises: (1) 30-100% of a lactic acid resin, (2) 0-50 wt.% of an aliphatic polyester having Tg of 0°C and/or an aromatic aliphatic polyester, (3) 0-50 wt.% of an inorganic filler, (4) 0-10 wt.% of a hydrolysis preventing agent and (5) 0-50 wt.% of a plasticizer (abstract).

Takagi discloses that the lactic-acid system resin may mean poly-DL [the poly-L-lactic acid whose structural unit is L-lactic acid, the poly-D-lactic acid whose structural unit is D-lactic acid, and whose structural unit are L-lactic acid and D-lactic acid]-lactic acids, and these mixtures, and may be a copolymer with alpha-hydroxycarboxylic acid, or diol/dicarboxylic acid further (page 3, [0011]). As a polymerization method of lactic-acid system resin, any well-known approaches, such as a condensation polymerization method and a ring-opening- polymerization method, are employable, for example, a condensation polymerization method (page 11, [0012]).

Takagi discloses that the most desirable thing as copolymerization is block copolymerization. It can consider as the polymer possessing transparency and shock resistance by making a polylactic acid segment into an ABA block copolymer typically, if A, for example, a diol dicarboxylic acid segment, is set to B. In this case, as for the glass transition temperature (T_g) of the segment of B, it is desirable that it is 0°C or less, when discovering shock resistance (page 3, [0017]).

Nakazawa discloses that the polylactic acid polymer composition comprises weight ratio of said poly-L-lactic and said poly-D-lactic acid in the range (L): (D) = 10:90-90:10 (page 2, [0019]) and exemplifies that weight ratio of said poly-L-lactic and said poly-D-lactic acid is 50:50 (Examples 1 and 2, pages 9-10, [0080]-[0083]).

However, Takagi and Nakazawa et al. do not disclose or fairly suggest a polylactic acid resin composition comprising polylactic acid capable of generating stereocomplex crystallization and an aromatic urea compound represented by formula (1), wherein the polylactic acid capable of generating stereocomplex crystallization is a

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blend of poly-L-lactic acid and poly-D-lactic acid, and the blend has a ratio of poly-L-lactic acid to poly-D-lactic acid of from 30% to 70% by weight to 70% to 30% by weight based upon a total weight of poly-L-lactic acid and poly-D-lactic lactic acid, or a polylactic acid stereoblock copolymer, particularly wherein the aromatic urea compound is xylylene bisstearyl urea as per newly amended claim 1.

10. As of the date of this Notice of Allowability, the Examiner has not located or identified any reference that can be used singularly or in combination with another reference including Takagi and Nakazawa et al. to render the present invention anticipated or obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art.

11. In the light of the above discussion, it is evident as to why the present claims are patentable over the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delay, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reason for Allowance".

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MICHAEL M. BERNSHTEYN whose telephone number is (571)272-2411. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 8-6:30.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Wu can be reached on 571-272-1114. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Michael M. Bernshteyn/
Examiner, Art Unit 1796

/M. M. B./
Examiner, Art Unit 1796